

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 MMO-04 USPS-01 /020 W

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P R 282126Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBSSY CARACAS

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1744

UNCLAS CARACAS 1050

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FOR: ILA: STATE FOR CU/ARA

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS REPORT

REF: USIA 0472

USIS BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE COMING YEAR:

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A BILATERAL AGREEMENT, FOR HIGH LEVEL EX-CHANGES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND VENEZUELA IN THE FILEDS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN PROPOSED AND IS BEING ACTIVELY PURSUED. THESE EXCHANGES WOULD BE FUNDED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

2. COMMERATIVE STAMPS. AS SUGGESTED BY THE EMBASSY AND THE NAA BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE, THE VENEZUELAN POST OFFICE IS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO ISSUE A SERIES OF FIVE BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS. CLEARANCE HAS ALREADY BEEN OBTAINED FOR USE OF THE BICENTENNIAL SYMBOL AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR ITS REPRODUCTION HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE DESIGNER. (GOV PROJECT).

3. MAJOR BICENTENNIAL CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS. FUNDATEATRO'S SERIES OF CULTURAL EVENTS IN HONOR OF THE BICENTENNIAL WAS OPENED WITH THE PERFORMANCES OF THE MERCE CUNNINGHAM DANCE COMPANY AND THE VISIT OF COMPOSER JOHN CAGE. TO APPEAR DURING THE COMING MONTHS, LUIGI'S JAZZ DANCE COMPANY, MURRAY LOUIS DANCE COMPANY, PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND, STAN GETZ TRIO, PAUL TAYLOR'S DANCE COMPANY AND THE ELLIOT FELD BALLET HAVE BEEN CONTRACTED.

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USIS IS COSPONSORING THESE EVENTS AND IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE

PLANNING, FINANCING (IN A VERY MINOR WAY) AND EXECUTION OF THESE PROGRAMS.

4. SCULPTURE DONATION. A GOV COMMITTEE OF OFFICIALS FROM CONAC AND THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS BEEN DESIGNATED TO ARRANGE FOR THE ERECTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C. OF A SCULPTURE BY VENEZUELAN ARTIST OTERO AS A GIFT TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. SIMILARLY, A STATUE OF FRANCISCO DE MIRANDA WILL BE DONATED TO THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. (GOV PROJECT).

5. A BICENTENNIAL COMMUNICATIONS SEMINAR, FOCUSING ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS PROVISIONS OF THE U.S. AND VENEZUELAN CONSTITUTIONS, IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 21-23. PIERRE SALINGER, ERIC SEVEREID, HELEN THOMAS, ELY ABLE, JAMES GOODSSELL, JOE KRAFT, AND ROBERT EVANS ARE CONSIDERING PARTICIPATION. THE SEMINAR WILL BE JOINTLY SPONSORED BY USIS, THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION, AND THE VENEZUELAN MEDIA.

6. NEW BNC BUILDING. USIS WILL PRUSUE ITS PROPOSAL TO THE GOV THAT IT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUILDING TO HOUSE THE BINATIONAL CENTER IN CARACAS, IF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES THE PROJECT.

7. SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE. CONAC, THE NATIONAL CULTURAL COUNCIL, HAS AGREED TO FINANCE A USIS PROPOSED SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE, A FIVE WEK INTENSIVE COURSE FEATURING UP TO TEN U.S. MUSIC PROFESSORS. USIS IS NEGOTIATING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE GOODWIN JAZZ QUINTET, AND THE PORTLAND SYMPHONY STRING QUARTET.

8. BICENTENNIAL SYMPHONY CONCERTS - USIS HAS ARRANGED FOR THE VENEZUELAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM TWO CONCERTS FOR THE BICENTENNIAL. ONE IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL AND THE SECOND, A GALA CONCERT, FOR JULY 4. BERNSTEIN, DORATI AND CALDWELL HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SERVE AS U.S. GUEST CONDUCTORS FOR THE JULY 4 AND OTHER SYMPHOHY ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES.

9. BICENTENNIAL OVERTURE. A USIS-PROPOSED CONTEST FOR THE COMPOSITION OF A BICENTENIAL OVERTURE WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE NAA.

10. CONCERT SERIES BY VENEZUELAN QUARTET. USIS WILL SPONSOR FIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERTS TRHOUGHOUT VENEZUELA BY THE GALZIO QUARTET PERFORMING WORKS OF U.S. COMPOSER ROBERT PALMER AND FEATURING THE PREMIER OF PALMER'S "PLANO QUARTET" DEDICATED TO THE GALZIO QUARTET FOR THE BICENTENNIAL.

11. UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES. TWO ENSEMBLES COMPOSED OF U.S. PLAYERS IN THE MARACAIBO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR USIS TO PROGRAM A SERIES OF CONCERTS OF AMERICAN MUSIC AT

VENEZUELAN UNIVERSITIES.

12. YOUTH ORCHESTRA. CONAC HAS SUGGESTED AN EXCHANGE OF YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND VENEZUELA.

13. ESSAY CONTEST. USIS HAS COMPLETED PREPARATORY WORK FOR A CONTEST FOR A MAJOR HISTORICAL THESIS ABOUT THE INFLUENCE OF THE U.S. ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF VENEZUELA, OR EARLY U.S. VENEZUELAN RELATIONS. THIS CONTEST HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED WITH SPONSORSHIP OF THE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

14. TV CO-OPS: USIS WILL SEND TV JOURNALISTS FROM EACH OF THREE NETWORKS (ONE-GOV, TWO INDEPENDENT) ON SEPARATE PROJECTS TO COVER ASPECTS OF THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN THE U.S. AS WELL AS INTERVIEW MAJOR POLITICAL FIGURES AND OTHER PERSONALITIES. THE POST WILL PROVIDE AN ESCORT OFFICER AND ARRANGE FOR IMV FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE WHILE THE VENEZUELAN NETWORKS WILL COVER EXPENDITURES.

15. "AN EVENING WITH EMILY DICKINSON". A USIS ARRANGED EVENING OF POETRY READINGS AND COMMENTARY ON THE WORKS OF EMILY DICKINSON IS PENDING FOR MARCH AT CARACAS' ATENEO.

16. MOVIE SERIES. THROUGH THE NAA BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE OF THE NAA, USIS WILL SPONSOR FESTIVALS OF SILENT MOVIES, OSCAR WINNING MOVIES, AND HISTORIC DOCUMENTARIES.

17. SISTER CITIES. THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF CARACAS HAS EXPRESSED TO USIS HIS INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING A SISTER CITY PROGRAM WITH INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA. (GOV PROJECT).

18 BICENTENNIAL SPEECHES. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, USIS WILL PROVIDE A CYCLE OF SPEECHES ON BICENTENNIAL THEMES. THE FIRST WAS DE-UNCLASSIFIED

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LIVERED TO THE ROTARY CLUB BY AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN.

19. BICENTENNIAL BALL. USIS ARRANGED FOR THE CANAL ZONE AIR FORCE BAND TO PERFORM AT THE NAA BICENTENNIAL BALL HELD IN CARACAS NOVEMBER 29.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA01050
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760033-0043
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760115/aaaaamjz.tel
Line Count: 160
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hattaycs
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <27 JUL 2004 by hattaycs>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS REPORT
TAGS: OEXC, VE, US
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006